TIMES-VIRGINIAN

IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

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EDITORIAL

LAVAL IS HITLER

From The New York Times

The sudden, dramatic shift that brings Pierre Laval back into power as "Chief of the Government" of France can only mean that Hitler is through with halfway measures and ready to take personal command. Petain remains as "Chief of State"; but there cannot be much doubt that the now becomes a figurehead—shadowy, remote and stripped of power—for he has been forced to accept against his will, and to invest with the administrative functions of his office, a traitor who is Hitler's creature. The days of "Vichy France" are over. Laval is Hitler. And Laval's ascension to power is the opening signal for Hitler's Spring offensive.

Several factors have combined to end at this particular moment the long and cruel game of cat-and-mouse which Hitler has played with France. In the first place, Hitler is about to make the supreme effort of his life to win the war in a furious all-out drive for victory, and for that effort he must have all the power he can muster among the conquered nations on the Continent of Europe. Because he expects Laval to give him aid that Petain had refused him is one clear reason for this shift of power. A second reason, no less clear, is Hitler's determination to tear out by its roots such influence as the United States has been able to exert upon French policy through the personal friendship of the Old Marshal for our Ambassador, Admiral Leahy. There cannot be the slightest doubt that evidence of this influence has long been galling Hitler. Finally, and underlying both these reasons, there is the great fact that events themselves have finally compelled Hitler to recognize that his game of cat-and-mouse has failed in its objective. For nearly two years, with every instrument at his command—intrigue, bribery, cajolery, displays of the military power of German Reich, denunciations of democracy—he has sought to win over the people of France to the willing support of International Fascism. In that effort he has failed spectacularly, failed so completely that in order to achieve his will in France he must at last put into power a renegade Frenchman who is hated and despised by his own countrymen. There could not be clearer proof that France has rejected Hitler.

Now that the proof is given, now that Hitler has drawn from it a logical conclusion, and now that he has acted on this conclusion, it becomes necessary for our own Government to consider whether it will still attempt to maintain relations with Petain's successor or whether it will break off these relations. In deciding that question the President and the State Department will be entitled to wait until they have received from Admiral Leahy the fullest possible reports and until, on the basis of these reports, they have thrown into the scales every argument that can be advanced with respect to the course that will help most to win the war. But there can be no doubt that the return of Laval to power challenges the fundamental principle on which our recognition of Vichy has been based. That principle, as stated in a note given to the French Ambassador in Washington as recently as Monday evening, and now rejected brusquely by his Government, was the principle of "effective control of the French territory " by French authorities." With Hitler's new agent in power it becomes impossible to believe that any part of continental France remains within the effective control of French authorities.

No one can be better aware of this than the great masses of the French people themselves. Through two long years of bitter misery and immense danger they have rejected Hitler's advances, only to have Hitler's creature forced upon them in the end. That they hope passionately for Hitler's destruction we may be sure. That we shall fight until we have achieved his destruction they may be certain. We say to the French people that we are in this war on the side of France herself, that she may live again. This is the meaning of victory, and nothing short of this will do. For a world in which France has not recovered her full greatness, a world in which the Tricolor does not fly above a people strong in their own freedom, a world ni which Liberty, Equality and Fraternity do not shine again in all their glory, would be a world in which no free man anywhere could find life worth living.

THE SOLDIER'S LETTERS

(From Peninsula Enterprise)

The postal service is carrying without charge the letters mailed by members of the armed forces. So when the boys find their pay gone and no money to buy stamps, Uncle Sam gladly accepts the letter, and is pleased to carry it to the home folks and friends.

The letter from the location or ship where the boys are serving, is about the most welcome thing that comes in the mail. It brings relief to many an anxious heart, and keeps up ties of friendship that might be dimmed by absence. It is helpful to the soldier to write many letters, as the more they write the more they will get. The letters from home cheer up dull moments, and have a tendency to drive away the blues if these come.

Frequent letters written home will help the boys acquire facility in composition and writing, and they will be better able to take their part in ordinary life when the war is over.

"I MET A ZOMBIE" —TRUE STORY OF ADVENTURE

Thrilling account of a noted writer who went to Haiti to find out if the voodoo doctors were actually able to resurrect human rabots from the grave. What the author discovered presents a thrilling tale. Look for this feature in the May 3rd issue of

The American Weekly

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One Year's Work

CREW OF H. M. SUBMARINE "UTMOST" in a home port somewhere in Britain, sport their own success flag; black with a skull and cross-bones and insignia recording her exploits. In one year's service in the Mediterranean, the UTMOST torpedoed seven enemy supply ships, blew up a deeply-laden Italian transport, successfully gunned an enemy ship laden with motor transport, rescued a submarines and planes have been a real headache to Axis supply lines to Libya, sinking some 50 per cent of all cargoes destined for Gen. Rommel's desert army

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Yanks "Down Under"

THREE AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS are led on a sightseeing tour of Melbourne, Australia's second city, by members of the Australian Women's Auxiliary Air Force. Judging from the expression on their faces, they must be having a good time. Reports reaching the U. S. reveal that, in their off-duty periods, thousands of American soldiers and sailors are quickly making friends wherever they go, and are being received with the customary open-handed hospitality for which Australians, like Americans, are noted.

Fractions 'Vulgar' in 1828

Common fractions are called "vulgar fractions" in an arithmetic book written by Alfred Davies, a rural teacher, in 1825.

Arabs Satisfied Surgeons

It has been found that the lost healing art of the Arabs used 1,000 years ago in hospitals is comparable to the modern skill.

Books on Flowers Available in Appomattox County Library

This week, April 19-25, is Garden Week in Virginia. This year, a Victory Garden, whether it be flowers or vegetables, is stressed. The following books about flower gardening are in your local library:

Book of Garden Flowers, by Margaret McKenny.

Wild Garden, by Margaret McKenny.

Manual of Gardening, by L. H. Bailey.

Creative Flower Arrangement, by Dorothy Biddle.

Book of Landscape Gardening, by F. A. Waugh.

Planning Your Garden, by H. S. Rodgers.

Down The Garden Path, by Beverly Nichols.

New Gardens For Old, by Ortloff.

Home Flower Growing, by Emil Volz.

Vines For Every Garden, by D. H. Jenkins.

The Home Grounds, by L. W. Ramsey.

Garden Gossip, by Dorothy Ridle.

Trees And Shrubs, by A. H. Carhart.

Fragrance: In The Garden, by Anne Dorhance.

Wild Garden, by Margaret McKenny.

A Year In The Rose Garden, by J. H. Nicholson.

How To Grow Delphiniums, by L. H. Leonain.

Bouquets And Bitters, by J. R. Meade.

Modern Dahlias, by J. L. Roberts.

How To Grow Perennial Flowers, by V. H. Rice.

How To Grow Annual Flowers, by V. H. Rice.

The Soils That Support Us, by Kellogg.

Oakville Items

Oakville, April 16.- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henry Coleman and Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Coleman and children were sick with flu. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Moore, Branch Coleman and son, Floyd, called to see them Sunday, finding all of them improving except Mrs. C. H. Coleman, who continues sick.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Hawley and daughter, Lillian, formerly of Appomattox, have been visiting friends in this community for the past few days.

Private Samuel L. Page, of the U. S Army spent the week-end with relatives here.

Wilson Adams has been inducted into the Army.

Mrs. W. H. Ayers, who has been sick, is improving. Mrs Kemper Harris and Mr. and Mrs Harry Harris called to see her Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Williams spent Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O.W. Martin.

Mrs. Sidney Martin is sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Wertley Taylor, of Kingsport, Tenn., spent the week-end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.B Martin. Miss Ruby Martin, of Madison College, and Miss Helen Martin, of S.T.C., Farmville also spent Sunday in the same home.

Belle Martin spent the week-end with Ellen Martin.

Mrs. T.R. Taylor is spending several days in Lynchburg this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Royal Coleman and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Percy Reynolds.

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$3 for $2

Use Stag semi-paste Paints. You get $3.00 worth of value for $2.00. You save on-third of your paint cost. *And use better paint!* Just mix one gallon of "Stag" with one gallon of linseed oil and have two gallons of the finest paint made. Your saving is in the low cost of the linseed oil added for thinning. And you know you have all fresh linseed oil paint.

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OIL SHORTAGES TO AFFECT PERFUMES

Our ladyfolk may as well become reconciled and our menfolk accustomed to the fact that the fairer sex may not smell as good until the war is over! Hitler and his cohorts are to blame.

Only eight of 75 essential oils regularly used in the manufacture of perfumes are produced in the Western Hemisphere. The only one of prime importance is Paraguay's petitigrain. Plants bearing these aromatic oils grow wild all over the world, generally in tropical and subtropical climates. Most of the oils used commercially are produced on plantations in the Mediterranean basin and around the Indian Ocean.

Pending the end of the war, the Americas face the loss of many perfume oils and some favorite scents, particularly the costlier types which may be lacking for years, a fact that menfolk will generally applaud. However, there seems little likelihood of an acute shortage in the total supply of oils for perfume, soap, and creams because domestic substitutes have been developed, and Latin America may increase production from its wild plants.

The situation is similar with respect to vegetable oils such as peanut and soybean, which must replace Far East oil imports. American farmers say they will produce these and other oil crops in abundance so there will not be a shortage of oils for such items as food, printers' ink, linoleum, soap, paint and varnish, and for the manufacture of certain textiles and metals.

Car Inspection

Richmond, Va., April 23.- Pointing out that the spring inspection period opens throughout Virginia tomorrow, Colonel M. S. Battle, director of the Division of Motor Vehicles, today urged motorists to have their vehicles checked for mechanical fitness early during the five-week period.

There will be no extension of the June 1 deadline, the director said, and all motor vehicles registered in the State must bear the new inspection sticker by that date. The inspection period is being opened a week earlier than the usual date of May 1 because of the increase in registration.

It is anticipated that nearly 600,000 vehicles will be inspected during the period by the 1,250 official stations.

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EMPLOYERS MUST INCLUDE ACCOUNT NUMBERS

Ernest M. Brown, manager of the Lynchburg office of the Social Security Board today called attention to the fact that all employers are responsible for the correctness of wage reports, required by the Federal Government, even though they employ some other person to make out social security tax returns. He added that most employers in this section are now preparing their quarterly wage report and tax returns for January, February, and March of this year; and in view of the fact that a large number of new employees have been taken on in recent months, special care is necessary in compiling this report. The law requires every employer to include the social security account number as well as the name and the amount of wages paid during the previous quarter.

England bombing northern France around the clock.

Marshall says U. S. Army about ready to undertake offensive.

N & W WORKERS USING SAVINGS PAY-ROLL PLAN

Hundreds of Norfolk and Western Railway workers, representing all offices, shops and departments on the railroad in six states, enthusiastically launched a system-wide campaign today to make every one of the company's more than 21,000 employees a buyer of War Savings Bonds.

The campaign, which is headed by L. C. Ayers, of Roanoke, N & W assistant general manager, will be carried out by departmental and local committees. The plan is expected to develop keen competition among the various departments in the number of bonds purchased and the speed with which they go over the top. The first objective of the campaign proper is to have each employee buy a bond, but the drive will be carried on for the duration of the war.

This newspaper was established in the year 1892.

April is pledge month for regular purchases of Defense Bonds.

Philippine island of Cebu overrun by Japanese forces.

ONE-YEAR TIRES CAN BE THREE-YEAR TIRES!

Your Esso Dealer will help you get that extra mileage

If the tires you are now driving would last about 12 months

Then follow these simple rules to add an extra 24 months of tire life, so that the rubber may serve both you and your country.

1 DRIVE UNDER 40 MILES PER HOUR — By setting 40 miles per hour as your *maximum* and not more than 30 miles per hour as your usual speed, you can get up to 12 months' extra wear. Remember—tires wear out TWICE as fast at 50 as they do at 30! — 12 months

2 LET US CHECK INFLATION EVERY WEEK — A tire that is 30% below proper pressure will last only three-fourths as long as it should. Your Esso Dealer's air pumps have been *checked for accuracy*. Proper inflation can increase tire life by as much as . . . . . — 3 months

3 AVOID COWBOY STARTS AND STOPS — These waste rubber and cut tire life. By taking it easy, you can prolong tire use up to . . . . . — 3 months

4 Let an ESSO DEALER CROSS-SWITCH TIRES, using spare — At least every six months, have tires scientifically cross-switched by your Esso Dealer. Use all five of your tires! This, with regular attention to wheel alignment, wheel and tire balance, quick repair of small cuts and bruises, removal of oil and grease from tires, and avoidance of scuffing, can add extra service up to . . . . . — 6 months

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY

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ESSO DEALER Care Saves Wear

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SCHOOL DAYS — By DWIG